

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 11, 14-17, and 43-45, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Please amend Claims 28, 32-35, 42, and 46-53, and add new Claims 54-57 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

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28. (Twice Amended) An imaging apparatus comprising:

- a) a first communication unit, which conforms to a first communication system;
- b) a second communication unit, which conforms to a second communication system different from the first communication system; and
- c) a control unit, which sets said second communication unit in a passive state if said first communication unit is set in an active state, and sets said first communication unit in a passive state if said second communication unit is set in an active state.

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32. (Twice Amended) An apparatus according to claim 28, wherein said first communication unit conforms to an IEEE 1394 standard.

33. (Twice Amended) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said second communication unit conforms to a RS-232C standard.

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Cont.

34. (Twice Amended) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said second communication unit conforms to a RS-422 standard.

35. (Twice Amended) An apparatus according to claim 32, wherein said second communication unit conforms to a USB standard.

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42. (Twice Amended) A method of controlling an imaging apparatus that includes a first communication unit, which conforms to a first communication system, and a second communication unit, which conforms to a second communication system different from the first communication system, comprising the steps of:

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setting the second communication unit in a passive state if the first communication unit is set in an active state; and

setting the first communication unit in a passive state if the second communication unit is set in an active state.

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46. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 28, wherein said control unit sets said first communication unit in an active state if said second communication unit in an active state is set in a disconnected state, and sets said second communication unit in an active state if said first communication unit in an active state is set in a disconnected state.

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47. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 46, wherein said first

communication unit conforms to an IEEE 1394 standard, and wherein said second communication unit conforms to one of a RS-232C standard, a RS-422 standard, and a USB standard.

48. (Amended) A method according to claim 42, wherein the first communication unit conforms to an IEEE1394 standard.

49. (Amended) A method according to claim 48, wherein the second communication unit conforms to a RS-232C standard.

50. (Amended) A method according to claim 48, wherein the second communication unit conforms to a RS-422 standard.

51. (Amended) A method according to claim 48, wherein the second communication unit conforms to a USB standard.

52. (Amended) A method according to claim 42, further comprising the steps of:

setting the first communication unit in an active state if the second communication unit in an active state is set in a disconnected state, and

setting the second communication unit in an active state if the first